



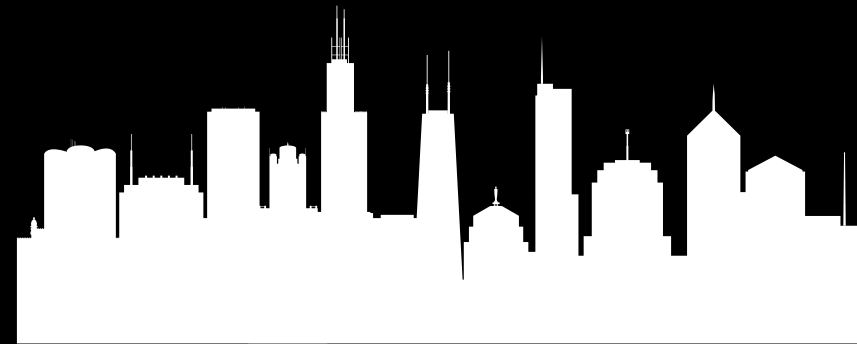
LEVERAGING COMMUNITY SUPPORT TO IMPROVE THE EXPERIENCE AND OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.

Tennessee Kids
BELONG
AN AFFILIATE OF AMERICA'S KIDS BELONG

America's Kids BELONG

- Faith Community
- Videos of waiting children
- 800 down to 200

Colorado



Chicago Business

Developed "three legged stool approach to solve complex social issues in many foriegn countries

Statewide Governor
Campaign
1000 kids adopted in
year
Drained Foster Parent
pool

Virginia



Government/Child Welfare



Business

**FOSTER
CARE**



Faith



Creatives

GOVERNMENT

- Convening power of the Governor
- Overseeing all cases and children in care

BUSINESS

- Provide benefits and support to employees who are foster parents
- Offer discounts and services to foster families
 - Internships and job opportunities, mentoring

FOSTER CARE

FAITH

- Largest organized volunteer base , engaging the 98% of families who won't foster
- Natural draw and calling to care for vulnerable
- Equipped to provide long term sustainable support wrapping around foster and bio families

CREATIVES

- Storytelling:
Giving a face and voice to children otherwise seen as statistics
 - Social media for good
- Utilizing creative platforms to raise awareness, break down myths and stereotypes around foster care

I BELONG Project



"...We have been involved in orphan & foster care ministries for 10 years....In Jan 2020, the movie *Instant Family* popped up as recommended on my TV, so I watched it. I started wondering what kind of teens were about to age out in Tennessee, to see which ones we would be a good fit for (in the future).

...I was about to close my computer when I came across Delaney's profile. I pressed play on her video. The connection and pull to her was instant. Do you know what it is like when you meet someone and they instantly feel like family? That is what it was with Delaney. It was the little things: the way she scrunched her face when she was thinking; her long wavy hair that reminded me of my youngest sister, her thoughtful answers to the questions. Her heart for others shined through...."

- MICHELLE, adoptive mom

Activating Volunteers



"You don't need to become a social worker or foster parent to help. Your life stage/vocation is actually part of the solution."



SUCCESS!

Increasing state foster family recruitment goals for the past 3 years



Creating a **foster friendly** community culture



Finding **forever homes** for over 54% of the children filmed

Creating **wrap around** support within faith communities for foster and bio families



Retention of foster families increasing



Increasing **morale** amongst social workers when the community supports the work



Download "Foster Friendly" APP
Become part of the solution.

THANK YOU !

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